

(a) whether some agreements for import/export of fertilizers have been signed with foreign countries during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the countries with whom such agreements have been signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Import of fertilizers is canalised through the Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC). During the last three years MMTC finalised contracts for import of fertilizers with a number of suppliers from the countries like Jordan, West Germany, GDR, France, Canada, USSR, Holland, Romania, U.K., Japan, USA, Mexico, Czechoslovakia, Norway, etc.

Being a net importer of fertilizers, India does not normally export fertilizers. However, 10,000 tonnes of DAP and 20,000 tonnes of urea were supplies, respectively by Pyrites Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. and Fertilizer Corporation of India to Nepal to meet its urgent need in 1991.

[English]

Financial and technical collaborations

4460. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of proposals for financial and technical collaborations received by the Reserve Bank of India during each of the last three years and during the current year;

(b) the number of proposals, out of these, cleared so far;

(c) the time by which the remaining

proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the steps being taken for early clearance of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). In pursuance of the decision contained in paras 39 (B) and 30 (C) of the Statement on Industrial Policy tabled in both the Houses of Parliament on 24th July, 1991, the Reserve Bank of India Started receiveing applications for automatic approval of direct foreign investment and technical collaborations only after 16th September, 1991.

The total number of applications received by the Reserve Bank of India upto 14.3.1992 is 505. Out of these, 365 have been approved; 90 have been returned to the respective applicants as these were not within the powers delegated to the Reserve Bank of India while the remaining 50 were under process as on 14.3.1992. The normal period for disposal of applications by the Reserve Bank of India is two weeks and he of the 50 cases under process is pending beyond two weeks.

Shortage of Hearses in Delhi

4461. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of Hearses in the Capital;

(b) whether some private Hearses are plying in the Capital without permit; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The M.C.D. has reported that they have adequate num-